



Maryland Agriculture Data

Weekly Crop and Weather Report



MD-CW0302

APRIL 15, 2002

Land Preparation and Planting Continues

Seasonable weather throughout the week with temperatures in the 80 degree range at week’s end. Farmers had an average of 5.5 **days suitable for field work** for the week ending April 14th which they used to continue land preparation and planting activities. Small amounts of **tomatoes, cantaloupes, watermelons, and snap beans** have been planted thus far. According to reports, **potatoes** are 51 percent planted, **green peas** are 60 percent planted, and **sweet corn** is 14 percent planted. **Peaches, apples** and **strawberries** continued to bloom and reached average progression levels for this time of year. However, freezing temperatures in the previous week damaged these crops in North Eastern parts of the state. The damage ranged from slight to moderate and varied according to crop.

Small grains continue to be reported in mostly fair to good condition with **winter wheat** rated 6 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 65 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. **Barley** is rated 4 percent poor, 13 percent fair, 67 percent good, and 16 percent excellent.

Pasture is rated 3 percent very poor, 14 percent poor, 47 percent fair, 34 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. **Hay supplies** are rated 9 percent very short, 17 percent short, 70 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus.

Rain showers over the past couple of weeks have helped, however much more is needed to retore soil moisture to mostly adequate levels . **Topsoil moisture** is 5 percent very short, 45 percent short, 50 percent adequate. **Subsoil moisture** is 34 percent very short, 49 percent short, 17 percent adequate.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING April 14, 2002 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1997-2001
Planting Progress:				
Corn	9	4	3	6
Potatoes	51	41	24	70
Green Peas	60	42	40	56
Sweet Corn	14	7	9	12
Fruit Crops Bloomed:				
Apples	24	3	5	29
Peaches	69	25	9	54
Strawberries	32	10	27	28

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING April 14, 2002 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil Moisture	5	45	50	0
Topsoil (2001)	0	2	53	45
Subsoil Moisture	34	49	17	0
Subsoil (2001)	0	3	72	25

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